



ABC Chester Haddan Scholar Award

2026 Program Manual

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We are committed to the continual pursuit of sustainable growth for the professionals who drive value in OP&P rehabilitation. Through thoughtful and innovative funding programs, we seek to drive meaningful change and improvements in OP&P patient care.

OF OP&P, **FOR** OP&P, **WITH** OP&P - improving patient care **TOGETHER**

We are excited to have you apply and look forward to learning more about your journey!

This manual is designed to guide you through the application process, ensure your application is complete, and help you understand what to expect at each step. Our mission is to support individuals in achieving their educational and career goals. .

1. Overview of the Program

The ABC Chester Haddan Scholar Award, honors the legacy of Chester Haddan, CPO-ABC's first President and a champion of professional excellence and leadership in O&P.

This annual scholarship provides a \$5,000 award to a highly motivated student enrolled full time in a Master's program in Orthotics and Prosthetics (O&P) who demonstrates exceptional leadership potential and a commitment to making a transformative impact in the O&P profession. The Chester Haddan Scholar embodies the values of service, innovation, and dedication to elevating professional standards and patient outcomes across O&P.

Purpose and Legacy of the ABC Chester Haddan Scholar Award

The Chester Haddan Scholarship was established to recognize and support students who demonstrate leadership potential and a commitment to advancing the orthotics and prosthetics profession. In honoring Chester Haddan's legacy, this scholarship emphasizes professional leadership, innovation, collaboration, and service to the O&P community. Thanks to a generous contribution from the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics (ABC) for its 75th Anniversary, this award has been expanded.

Through this award, The O&P Foundation seeks to invest in future clinicians who will strengthen the profession and improve access to high-quality, patient-centered O&P care.

2. Eligibility Requirements

Applicant must:

- Be enrolled as a full time student in a Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) accredited O&P Masters degree program for one semester/quarter.
- Be in good academic standing within the program
- Be a United States citizen or legal permanent resident.

3. Application Process

All applications must be submitted through The O&P Foundation Application Portal.

Step 1: Create an Account

Applicants must create an account in The O&P Foundation Application Portal using a personal (non-academic) email address.

Step 2: Select the Program

After logging in, select the “*ABC Chester Haddan Scholar Award*” application and follow all portal instructions carefully.

Step 3: Upload and Submit Materials

- All required application materials must be uploaded through the portal by 5pm (CST) on the posted deadline.
- Applicants are responsible for confirming that all materials—including letters of recommendation—are received by the deadline.

4. Required Application Materials

A complete application includes the following components:

a) Transcript

- An official or unofficial transcript that includes the current academic semester.
- Unofficial transcripts must be signed by the Program Director or Faculty Advisor.
- Transcript should include cumulative O&P program GPA.

b) Letter of Recommendation

- One (1) letter of recommendation from an individual who can speak to the applicant's leadership attributes.
- The letter should address why the applicant is a strong candidate for the ABC Chester Haddan Scholar Award.
- Letters of recommendation must be requested by the applicant and submitted through the application portal by the recommender.

c) Resume

- Maximum length: two (2) pages.
- Must be submitted in PDF format.
- Should include education, work experience, volunteer activities, honors, and awards.
- [Tips for Scholarship Application Resume Writing.pdf](#)

d) Video Submission

- Length: 3-4 minutes.
- The video should demonstrate professional presentation and communication skills.
- Applicants should address their leadership, innovation, self-awareness, and/or collaboration.
- Applicants should also discuss their goals for future leadership within the O&P profession.
- [Tips for Creating a Scholarship Application Video.pdf](#)

5. Tips for a Strong Application

- **Start Early:** Give yourself plenty of time to gather materials, write your personal statement, and give plenty of lead time, especially with your request for a letter of recommendation.
- **Be Authentic:** Share your unique story, challenges, and aspirations.
- **Proofread:** Ensure your application is free from errors and clearly written.
- **Follow Instructions:** Submit all required documents, adhere to word limits and pay attention to deadline dates and times.

6. Key Deadlines

- [Application opens:](#) April 1st 2026
- [Application deadline:](#) May 4th 2026
- [Notification of selection:](#) June 2026

- Award disbursement: Within 14 days of award notification

7. Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of educators and clinical experts appointed by The O&P Foundation's Education Committee.

1. Initial Review:

- Applications are screened for completeness and eligibility.

2. Evaluation:

- The O&P Foundation Education Committee reviewers evaluate applications based on the requirements outlined in this manual.
- Applications with a weighted total score > than a 75% will be considered for award.

3. Final Decision:

- All applicants will be notified of the final decisions through the application portal.
- Selected recipient will also be notified by email directly with an Award Letter, instructions for payment of award funds, and details for the public announcement.

8. Award Funding & Details

- Scholarship funds are disbursed directly to you and not to your school/institution.
- **This scholarship is considered as taxable income by the IRS.**
- You will receive a 1099 form from the O&P Foundation for income reporting for the 2026 tax year.

9. Public Announcement

- The scholarship recipient will be publicly recognized on The O&P Foundation's website, social media, and in a press release.
- Recipient is required to sign a media release form, submit a high resolution headshot, a brief bio, and a quote to be included in these announcements.
- Publicity efforts are intended to celebrate the achievement of recipient and promote the award program.

10. Communication and Contact Information

- When creating an application in the portal, please use your personal email, do **NOT** use an academic email. Academic emails expire upon graduation and we want to stay in touch with you!
- You will be registering with our payment servicer, Bill.com to select your payment preferences for the scholarship funds.
- For any questions or assistance, please email us at info@oandpfoundation.org
- With any assistance or support inquires during the application period, please allow 48 to receive a response or for the issue to be resolved.

11. Frequently Asked Questions

- How do I know if my application was received?

You will receive a confirmation email upon submission. Always double check to make sure all documents have been properly uploaded and that your recommender has received the request.

- How do I find out my application status?

You can log in anytime to the application portal or to track progress of your application.

- Can I submit my application late?

No, late applications will not be accepted.

- What if I don't get a letter of recommendation submitted in time?

No late submissions of any kind will be accepted, please make your requests early in the application process and follow up on your requests!

- Can I apply for scholarships more than once?

Yes, you can!

- What if I am not getting emails from the portal?

Check your spam or junk folder, please adjust setting so that you can receive portal emails, for more info, see our [portal faq's](#).

- What if I don't get a letter of recommendation submitted in time?

Your application will still be reviewed but will be scored according to the submission materials missing

We wish you the best of luck with your application and look forward to supporting your educational journey in O&P!